



Pulse
of Wabash

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Blood donation opportunities scheduled

The Young Professionals of Wabash County (YPWC), Grow Wabash County (GWC) and the American Red Cross are now registering donors for a blood drive to be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 21 at the Heartland REMC building, 350 Wedcor Ave. The following Wabash County donation opportunities have also been scheduled: Noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 20 at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.; Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at the Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7 at the Manchester Church of the Brethren,

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Photos by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

Elise Gottschalk, second from the right, was crowned 2021 Wabash County 4-H Fair Queen.

Elise Gottschalk crowned 2021 Wabash County 4-H Fair Queen

17 contestants
competed July 14

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

At the Wednesday, July 14 coronation at the 2021 Wabash County 4-H Fair Queen Contest at the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater, Elise Gottschalk was crowned Queen.

Elise Gottschalk is the daughter of Brian and Stephanie Gottschalk. She is a seven-year 4-H member with experiences in swine, photography, cake decorating and consumer clothing. In 2019 she won fifth over-

all in the swine show with her York gilt. She graduated from Northfield High School in June as salutatorian. She will be attending the Purdue University School of Nursing in the fall.

Her court included First Runner Up Haylie Miller, Second Runner Up Olivia Dale, Third Runner Up Kearston Stout and Miss Congeniality Braylen Fleck.

Other contestants included

Makenlie Lambert, Avery Shrider, Trista Roser, Abby Shuler, Emma Pyle, Annie Schuler, Karrigan Yard, Kayla Hippensteel, Amelia

See QUEEN, page A9



The event began with a dance number to the sounds of "Walking on Sunshine" by Katrina and the Waves.



Photo by Clay Maxfield / Plain Dealer

On Monday, July 19, the Beef and Mini Beef Show was held at the Show Arena.

4-H Fair continues

Ten-year and Senior
4-H members honored

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The Wabash County 4-H Fair is in full swing at the Wabash County Fairgrounds at 6 Grover Street, and more events are scheduled throughout the rest of the week.

On Monday, Beacon Credit Union community relations specialist Kelly Stuber said they were a "proud supporter" of the fair and invited those in attendance to meet them outside of the Bruce Ingraham Building on Wednesday, July 21.

"We'll be handing out popsicles

and having a drawing for a Summer Fun pack," said Stuber. "Beacon Credit Union would like to congratulate all 2021 10-Year and Senior 4-H members on a job well done. We wish all 4-H exhibitors the best this week on projects."

On Wednesday, July 14, Huston honored the 10-year and Senior 4-H members at the 2021 Wabash County 4-H Fair Queen Contest.

Ten-Year 4-H Members included Madison Ayala, Kenzie Baer, Toby Baer, Grace Bryant, Alexis Evans, Braylen Fleck, Addison Harner, Alexander Haupt, Emma Hoover, Olivia Justice, Daisy Kelley, Gracen Kelley, Kyra Kennedy, Jenna

See FAIR, page A9

County ranks 5th in state in per veteran benefits

Loss of World War II, Korean War veterans means decrease in local population

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Wabash County continues to rise within the state in terms of benefits received among its veteran population, said Wabash County veterans service officer Samuel Daugherty on Monday.

According to the newest data released by the Veterans Administration, while Wabash County

still ranks 49th out of 92 Indiana counties in size based on the number of veterans residing here, it has climbed to fifth overall for benefits received on a per veteran basis.

Wabash County also ranks fifth in the state for the number of its veterans who are service-connected for disabilities with the Veterans Administration.

"This places Wabash County firmly among the top few counties in our state for receiving veteran-related assistance through the Veterans Administration," said

See VETERANS, page A9

Clark Gallery presents rich contributions of Latino artists

'Artes Latinas in Wabash' features six professional artists and local students

STAFF REPORT

"Artes Latinas in Wabash," on display through Sunday, Aug. 22 in the Honeywell Center Clark Gallery, "presents the rich and varied contributions of Latino artists," according to development communications manager Courtney Harvey.

"Born from the desire to connect communities and demonstrate life

as a Midwesterner from unique perspectives, the visual art exhibition is a collaboration of Honeywell Arts & Entertainment, Arte Mexicano en Indiana and the We the Many project," said Harvey.

The exhibit presents the artistic creations of six professional artists, including various styles such as illustration, printmaking, painting, muralism and graphic design. Works featured in the exhibit are presented by Colombian, Puerto Rican, Nuyorican and Mexican artists.

See EXHIBIT, page A10



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President Joe Biden speaks about the nation’s economic recovery amid the COVID-19 pandemic in the State Dining Room of the White House on Monday in Washington, D.C. Biden also reiterated his hope that Facebook will better police vaccine misinformation on their platform.

Dems can’t force Facebook to stem COVID misinformation

By ANNA EDGERTON
Bloomberg News (TNS)

Defeating COVID-19 in the U.S. is now mired in a partisan information war, a fight that President Joe Biden and Democrats in Congress are ill-equipped to win.

Biden’s struggle to control the coronavirus and vaccine misinformation online was evident in his broadside Friday that companies like Facebook Inc. were “killing people.” He begged social media platforms to change and pleaded with the American people not to believe everything they read.

Alphabet Inc.’s Google said Monday its YouTube video service will start labeling health videos with information on how authoritative the source is and Twitter Inc. says it’s working with public health authorities and will “continue to take enforcement action on content that violates our COVID-19 misleading information policy.”

Late Monday, Twitter banned Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene for 12 hours over misinformation. In a Facebook video, the freshman Republican slammed the move as social media overreach.

“They have been censoring conservatives for far too long. Our voices are the voices

that they want to cancel and we are experiencing being canceled every single day,” Greene said.

Facebook, meanwhile, went on the counterattack in response to Biden – accusing the White House of “finger-pointing” for failing to meet its vaccination target – indicating that the company is already doing everything it’s willing to do.

Biden’s comments came after months of meetings with social media companies to address misinformation on their platforms, according to an administration official. Discussions with Facebook grew increasingly unproductive in recent months and the administration was unsatisfied with the company’s responses to requests for more details about its response to inaccuracies and unscientific speculation, the official said. Still, there wasn’t much the White House could do but complain.

Biden walked back his earlier comments slightly on Monday, saying online misinformation is the culprit, not the companies themselves. When asked whether he would hold social media companies accountable, he said he’s “trying to make people look at themselves, look in the mirror” and imagine those falsehoods going to people they care about and act accordingly.

Imran Ahmed, head of the Center for Countering Digital Hate, said that Biden’s plea reflects his frustration with the spread of vaccine inaccuracies online – and his powerlessness to fix it.

“It’s not just a morally devastating line from the president, it’s also a sign of the weakness that government has when it comes to dealing with the platforms,” Ahmed said in a telephone interview. “We’re seeing the limitations of the tools that government has right now.”

The Biden administration fell short of its goal for at least 70 percent of eligible Americans to receive one shot by July 4. Now 72.3 percent of the adult population, or 186 million Americans, has received at least one dose, while at least 161 million people have completed the vaccination regime. The vaccine rollout, however, has stalled, and now the gap between the most and least vaccinated counties in the U.S. has widened, leaving many communities vulnerable to continued outbreaks.

A report from Ahmed’s organization, a nonprofit dedicated to fighting harmful content online, identified 12 users who generate 65 percent of the misleading posts about the coronavirus pandemic and vaccines.

Critics take aim at charitable money sitting in donor funds

By HALELUYA HADERO
Associated Press

Wealthy philanthropists have long enjoyed an advantageous way to give to charity: Using something called a donor-advised fund, they’ve been able to enjoy tax deductions and investment gains on their donations long before they give the money away.

These so-called DAFs set no deadlines for when the donations must reach charities; the donors themselves decide when and where the money goes.

Critics complain that because DAFs provide no financial incentive to quickly donate the money, much of it ends up sitting indefinitely in the accounts rather than being distributed to needy charities.

That criticism has helped drive a Senate bill that would tighten the rules for DAFs and aim to speed donations to charities. The bill, introduced by Sens. Angus King, a Maine Independent, and Chuck Grassley, an Iowa Republican, appears to be gaining bipartisan support in Congress.

The bill would make numerous reforms to DAFs by, among other things, creating new categories of accounts.

One type of account would give donors an immediate income tax deduction for money they agree to give to a charity within 15 years.

The second type would let them delay the distribution of their money for 50 years. These donors would get no income tax deduction until then. But they would still get to enjoy capital gains and es-

“The idea of getting a tax deduction today for money that may not be paid out for 50 years makes no sense. I understand you might want to put it into a fund and have someone else manage it. But it's got to go out within a reasonable period of time. Otherwise, it's an abuse of the tax code.”

SEN. ANGUS KING
I-Maine

tate tax savings for donating stocks or gifts into a DAF.

Community foundation-sponsored DAFs with less than \$1 million would be exempt from the requirement. But donors with more than \$1 million in such accounts would qualify for up-front tax benefits only if they distributed at least 5 percent of their assets annually or gave their money to a charity within 15 years. Under current law, assets can remain in a DAF indefinitely, tax-free.

“This is about as common sense a bill as I’ve ever seen,” said King, who caucuses with Democrats.

“The idea of getting a tax deduction today for money that may not be paid out for 50 years makes no sense,” the senator added. “I understand you might want to put it into a fund and have someone else manage it. But it’s got to go out within a reasonable period of time. Otherwise, it’s an abuse of the tax code.”

The proposed reforms have opened a rift in philanthropy circles among billionaire donors, community foundations and trade associations and have sparked intense lobbying efforts both for and against the legislation.

The debate was ignited when John Arnold, a Texas-based billionaire who made his fortune in hedge funds and now co-chairs Arnold Ventures, joined with a group of scholars and philanthropies to propose a set of reforms under a coalition they called The Initiative to Accelerate Charitable Giving. The group met with lawmakers to advocate for the reforms, which have largely been incorporated into the Senate bill.

What sparked Arnold’s interest, he said, was seeing rich people with philanthropic intent funneling money into DAFs yet distributing very little of it to charities.

“The money was just sitting there growing,” Arnold said. “There wasn’t any intent of abuse of the system. But the money was just building up because there was no forcing mechanism.”

Opponents of the bill counter that tighter restrictions on DAFs are unnecessary because the average annual payout rates for DAFs hover around 20 percent – much higher than the 5 percent minimum required of private foundations. Richard Graber, who leads the conservative Bradley Foundation, calls the legislation “a solution in search of a problem.” (The foundation is affiliated with Bradley Impact Fund, a DAF sponsor).

5-Day Weather Summary

Wednesday Partly Cloudy 83 / 63	Thursday Partly Cloudy 84 / 67	Friday Isolated T-storms 85 / 69	Saturday Partly Cloudy 88 / 72	Sunday Scattered T-storms 89 / 69

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 9:05 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 6:34 a.m.

Full 7/23	Last 7/31	New 8/8	First 8/15

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 83°, humidity of 60%. North wind 2 to 6 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 64°. Northeast wind 2 to 6 mph. Thursday, skies will be partly cloudy with a high temperature of 84°, humidity of 61%. Light winds.

Indiana files appeal in federal pandemic unemployment case

By CASEY SMITH
Associated Press/
Report for America

INDIANAPOLIS — State officials filed an appeal this week in an ongoing attempt to withdraw Indiana from federal programs that expanded unemployment benefits during the pandemic.

Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb and Department of Workforce Development Commissioner Fred Payne argued in their court filings Monday that a Marion County judge “abused” his discretion last month by ordering Indiana to resume participation in the benefit programs while a lawsuit is still pending.

The appeal further maintained that Indiana is not required to participate in the federal programs, and that the governor can withdraw the state from the programs at his discretion.

Indiana on Friday resumed making the \$300 federal unemployment payments to workers affected by the coronavirus pandemic after an appeals court ordered it to do so. Officials said the state also restarted its participation in a federal program that makes gig workers and

the self-employed eligible for assistance for the first time and another that provides extra weeks of aid.

The payments were the first to be paid since mid-June and came more than a month into a legal battle over the state’s participation in federal programs that expanded unemployment benefits during the pandemic.

Holcomb, who has pushed to drop the state from the federal programs before they’re scheduled to end on Sept. 6, announced in May that Indiana would reinstate a requirement that those receiving unemployment benefits would again have to show they were actively searching for work as of June 1 and that the state would leave the federal programs effective June 19.

Marion Superior Court Judge John Hanley granted a preliminary injunction in an ongoing lawsuit filed June 14 by two legal organizations, ruling that the state must temporarily resume participation in the federal government’s programs that provide unemployment benefits during the pandemic.

In his order, Hanley said Indiana’s decision to leave the federal program early

violates state law, adding that the unemployment benefits are “instrumental in allowing Hoosiers to regain financial stability at an individual level while the state continues to face challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic during its return to normalcy.”

The state attorney general’s office asked the Indiana Court of Appeals to quickly stay Hanley’s order, arguing that the state couldn’t continue paying the benefits because it had already ended its agreement with the federal government to administer the federal programs. The state also argued that it wouldn’t have time to withdraw from the federal programs again should the appeals court rule in its favor.

The appeals court upheld Hanley’s order on July 12, however.

Officials at the Department of Workforce Development said the agency issued 25,000 payments totaling more than \$33 million on Friday and expect to make thousands of additional payments this week.

Should the state prevail in its appeal, Payne said claimants wouldn’t be asked to return payments.

IN BRIEF

Federal court nixes Indiana’s voter registration purge law

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A federal appeals court has sided with opponents of an Indiana law aimed at having elections officials immediately purge voter registrations for people who appear to have registered in another state.

The decision released Monday upholds an order issued by an Indianapolis-based judge that blocked the law enacted in 2020 from taking effect. The appeals court disparaged the law adopted by the Republican-dominated Legislature as an attempt to get around court rulings against a similar 2017 law.

The revised law dropped a much-criticized national voter database started by Kansas officials in favor of Indiana election officials collecting voter registration information from other states to compare with Indiana’s. The Chicago-based 7th Circuit Court of Appeals called the change “different window dressing” that was “largely cosmetic.”

The court faulted Indiana’s revised law for still violating the National Voter Registration Act by allowing county elections officials to remove voters from registration rolls without receiving consent from that person or notifying the voter and letting two federal elections pass without the person voting.

Purdue: 60 percent of students vaccinated against COVID-19

WEST LAFAYETTE (AP) — Purdue University says 60 percent of incoming students and 66 percent of school employees have submitted proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 four weeks ahead

of an Aug. 13 fall semester deadline.

Purdue announced the figures Tuesday in its first release of overall campus vaccination rates.

Purdue said it is strongly encouraging all students and employees to get the vaccine if possible.

The university expects the numbers of those fully vaccinated will grow before the first day of fall classes Aug. 23, said Eric Barker, dean of the College of Pharmacy and leader of the Protect Purdue Health Monitoring and Surveillance team.

Bodies driven to town hall after apparent murder-suicide

GAS CITY (AP) — A man apparently fatally shot his wife and then himself in an SUV operated by a relative who drove the bodies to a northeastern Indiana town hall, police said.

Eric Huffman, 48, and Telina Huffman, 43, of Marion, were found dead from apparent gunshot wounds Monday afternoon in the SUV outside the Gas City Town Hall, Indiana State Police said. Autopsies were pending.

The Huffmans were passengers in the SUV as it was being driven by a 69-year-old man related to Eric Huffman. Preliminary police findings indicate that the couple argued before Eric Huffman shot his wife with a handgun.

The man driving the SUV then began struggling with Eric Huffman to get the gun but lost control of the vehicle and it crashed into a parked semi-trailer at a Gas City business, police said.

After the crash, Eric Huffman allegedly used the handgun to shoot himself, police said.

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Talk to us

Linda Kelsay, Publisher
lkelsay@wabashplaineader.com

Rob Burgess, Editor
rburgess@wabashplaineader.com

Vicki Williams, Advertising Director
vwilliams@h-ponline.com

Main number: 260-563-2131

Newsroom
260-563-2131
news@wabashplaineader.com

Website
www.wabashplaineader.com

Fax: 260-563-0816

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Obituaries

Jacob ‘Tyler’ Rankin

Aug. 1, 1994 – July 16, 2021

Jacob “Tyler” Rankin, 26, of Wabash, Indiana, died Friday, July 16, 2021, at his home. He was born on Aug. 1, 1994, in Noblesville, Indiana, to James Alan and Jenice Lynn “Jen” (Smith) Rankin.

Tyler worked the past three years at Autozone in Wabash. He enjoyed working on cars and tinkering on engines. He enjoyed fishing, skateboarding, animals, collecting coins, and hanging with friends. Tyler loved his mother and his brothers, idolized his father, and he loved spending time with them. He volunteered countless hours at the Wabash County Solid Waste District, and every year with the Wabash River Defenders.

He is survived by his mother, Jen Rankin of Wabash, two brothers, Ryan Wayne Swingley of Noblesville, Indiana, and Joseph Dean Rankin of Fishers, Indiana, half brother, Cody Alan Rankin, and step-sister, Hailey Lynn Rankin, both of Elwood, Indiana, girlfriend, Amanda Long of Wabash, step-mother, Julie Rankin of Elwood, two grandmothers, Melba Smith of Cowan, Indiana, and Anne Nita Rankin of Stanford, Kentucky, grandfather, Ralph Stiles of Indianapolis, Indiana, several aunts,



uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father, James Alan Rankin, brother, Christopher Bradley Rankin, grandmother, Patricia Stiles, and his grandfathers, Norman Wesley Smith, and Lindsey Rankin.

Funeral services will be 10 am, Friday, July 23, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Bruce Hostettler officiating. Burial will be in Crownland Cemetery, Noblesville, Indiana. Friends may call 3 – 7 pm, Thursday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The memorial guest book for Jacob may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Shirley Ann Scheerer Darrow

Dec. 9, 1932 – June 24, 2021

Shirley Ann Scheerer Darrow, 88, of Jackson, MS, passed away June 24. She was born in Wabash, IN, on Dec. 9, 1932, and graduated from Wabash High School.

Shirley married Robert “Bob” W. Darrow in 1963, with whom she shared 53 years. A few years after marrying, they made the big move south to Dothan, AL, where they loved the heat so much they never turned on the AC. In 1973, they made a final move to Jackson, where they lived out the rest of their years. Shirley loved spending time with her family and her household of pets. She nurtured a life long love of dogs and bred poodles for several years, to the delight of her children. In her later years, her love of socializing lent itself to a job at Gayfers department store, where she enjoyed engaging with all who came through the doors. Her grandchildren enjoyed playing competitive games of double solitaire with her and eagerly anticipated the gifts of excess soft drinks and candy from the various vending machines she managed.

Shirley was preceded in death by her husband Bob; parents, Lawrence and Edith Scheerer; brother Lar-

ry (Bette) Scheerer; daughter Kimberlin; and grandson James Richard Drake II. She is survived by her children, Tamaralyn Drake (James) of Terry, Daniel Darrow of Granger, IN, KitLaCour (Ron) of Brandon, Robert (Pam) of Overland Park, KS, and Douglass (Christina) of Powder Springs, GA; 15 grandchildren, Tanyalyn, David (Hannah), Danielle, Jessica, Kimber (Bryan), Allen, Christalin, Jennifer, Robbie (Carlee), Lara, Lacey, Christopher (Olivia), Phillip, Timothy, Zachary; and 12 great-grandchildren, Madalyn, Gracelyn, Christalyn, Britany, Austin, Owen, Elliott, Vincent, Patience, Randy, Keira, and Fallon.

Her family would like to extend thanks to the staff at St. Dominic’s Hospital and Hospice Ministries of Ridgeland, who were very gracious and kind, as well as the staff at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, where she chose to donate her body for science.

A celebration of life for Shirley and Bob was held at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church on June 28. In lieu of flowers, the family requests those who wish to express sympathy to consider a donation to a charity of their choice.

Chris Anne Rose

Family will receive friends for Chris Anne Rose, from 4 pm – 6 pm, Friday, July 23, 2021 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash.

Ilah Mae Wagner

Jan. 16, 1941 – July 19, 2021

Ilah Mae Wagner, 80, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 12 pm, Monday, July 19, 2021, at her home, surrounded by her family and loved ones. She was born on Jan. 16, 1941, in Hudson, Michigan, to Robert and Cora (Bidlack) Varner.

Ilah was a 1959 graduate of Oakwood High School in Oakwood, Ohio, and received her Associate’s degree in 1995, from Ivy Tech in Kokomo, Indiana. She married Oren C. Wagner at the EUB Church in Oakwood. Ilah worked at General Tire 24 years, was the United Fund Executive Director 10 years, and also worked at Wabash-Kokomo Vault and Monument, Deb’s Cleaning Service, and was a tax preparer at H&R Block, all of Wabash. She was a member of the Wabash First United Methodist Church and the American Legion Auxiliary. She enjoyed reading and crocheting, gardening and flowers, vacationing in the Smokies with Oren, and especially attending her grandchildren’s events.

She is survived by her husband, Oren C. Wagner of Wabash, four children, Bradley (Debbie) Wagner of Wabash, Michelle (David) Meloy of Indianapolis, Indiana, Jeffrey (Tamara) Wagner of Leesburg, Indiana, and Jennifer Wagner of Wabash, nine grandchildren, Kody Fuller of Naples, Florida, Sabrina Wagner, US Navy of Sasebo, Japan, Mary Catherine Meloy of Indianapolis, Kory Fuller of Wabash, Tabatha Wagner of Wabash, Ryne Meloy of Indianapolis, Grant Wagner of Leesburg, Addison Meloy



of Indianapolis, and Zoe Ann Wagner of Leesburg, step-grandchild, Kristin Barwick US Coast Guard of Boston, Massachusetts, and her step great-grandchild, Saylor Barwick of Boston, two sisters, Annabelle Deatrack of Defiance, Ohio, and Betty (Phil) Hanenkratt of Paulding, Ohio. She was preceded in death by her parents, and son, Rodney Scott Wagner.

Funeral services will be 2 pm, Sunday, July 25, 2021, at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass Street, Wabash, with Rev. Nathan Whybrew and Pastor John Cook officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 3 pm – 7 pm, Saturday, July 24, 2021 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash, and from 1 -2 pm, Sunday at the church.

Preferred memorials are Wabash High School Athletic Department or Animal Shelter of Wabash County.

The memorial guest book for Ilah may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Leo Metzger

Oct. 24, 1920 – July 15, 2021

Leo Metzger, 100, North Manchester, Indiana, died July 15, 2021. Leo was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana on Oct. 24, 1920 to Howard and Iva (Leckrone) Metzger.

Leo is survived by his sons, Devon (Dianne) Metzger, Nolan Metzger, and Marlon (Pat) Metzger; daughters, Yvonne (Gary) Rautenkranz, Ondalee (Steve) Ashleman; sis-

ter, Martha Long; eleven grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

A celebration of Leo’s life will be at a later date. Burial will be at Ulrey Memorial Cemetery, 2507 State Road 14, Silver Lake, Indiana.

The family of Leo Metzger has entrusted McKee Mortuary with care and final arrangements.

Elaine Sommers Rich

Feb. 8, 1926 – Sept. 27, 2020

Elaine Sommers Rich, age 94, died peacefully on Sept. 27, 2020 in North Manchester, Indiana. She was born Feb. 8, 1926 to Monroe and Effie (Horner) Sommers in Plevna,

Family and friends may call Saturday, July 24, 2021 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the Eel River Community Church of the Brethren, 2507 State

Road 14, Silver Lake, Indiana. A celebration of Elaine’s life will begin at 2 p.m.

She was a small but mighty woman who loved people, big ideas, and the worldwide church.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary. Condolences may be emailed to mckeemortuary.com.

Ralph Keith Shrock

Ralph Keith Shrock, 66, of Wabash, Indiana, died July 16, 2021 at his home. Friends may call 4 – 7 pm, Wednesday July 21, 2021 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash.

Richard Harold ‘Dick’ Rogers

July 9, 1930 – July 17, 2021

Richard Harold “Dick” Rogers, 91, of Wabash, IN, passed away at 6:32 P.M., Saturday, July 17, 2021 at his residence, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in his parents’ home, located in Miami County, IN on July 9, 1930 to Cecil Harold and Grace Allen Rogers.

Dick was a 1949 graduate of Converse High School. He served in the United States Army from 1953 to 1955 during the Korean conflict. His military decorations include the National Defense Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. Dick married Joyce Ann Stanley at Richland Methodist Church in Converse, IN, on June 27, 1954. They celebrated 67 years of marriage. Dick attended both, the Richland Methodist Church and the Orange Grove Free Methodist Church, Bradenton, FL.

Dick held an extreme love for his family and was a grain and livestock farmer for most of his life. After retiring from farming, he owned his own semi and along with his wife Joyce Ann, traveled across the country. Dick was a licensed pilot and enjoyed many years of flying his own plane. He loved riding his motorcycle as well as camping with family and friends. Dick and Joyce Ann spent 22 years wintering in Florida, at locations in both Fort Meyers and at Sugar Creek Estates, Bradenton.

Dick is survived by his wife, Joyce Ann Rogers of Wabash, a daughter, Lou Ann (Michael) Shoemaker, Wabash, IN and a son, Larry Dean (Robin) Rogers, Swayzee, IN; four grand-



children, Ryan (Georganne) Shoemaker of Mentone, IN, Courtney (Tyler) Tobias of Columbia City, IN, Richard H. “Rick” Shoemaker of Urbana, IN and Logan (Janel) Rogers of Portage, IN; six great-grandchildren, Eli Shoemaker, Elliana Shoemaker, Knox Tobias, Hannah Tobias, Gabrielle Castro and Lucy Castro. Dick was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Gwendolyn Highley.

A service celebrating the life of Richard H. Rogers will be held at 4 P.M., Thursday, July 22, 2021 at the Laird-Eddy Funeral Home, 201 N. Main St., Amboy, IN with Melody Whiddon officiating. Burial will be in Park Lawn Cemetery. Family and friends may call from 2 to 4 P.M., Thursday, at the Laird-Eddy Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Richland Chapel United Methodist Church, Converse, IN.

Family and friends may leave a memory or message of condolence by visiting the online obituary at www.eddyfuneralhomes.com or on Facebook at Eddy Funeral Homes, Inc.

David A. Lyons

David A. Lyons, 79, a lifetime resident of Portland, Indiana until the last three years when he became a resident of Wabash, passed away on Friday, July 16, 2021, at his daughter’s residence.

Dave is survived by his wife, Diana (Ice) Lyons; daughters, Michelle (Dan) Sparling, and Susan (Russ) Reichard; and one brother, Robert C. Lyons.

Per Dave’s wishes, a private graveside service will be held at Gravel Hill Cemetery in Bryant, Indiana.

McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992, have been trusted to handle David Lyons’ arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Arden E. Ayres

Arden E. Ayres, 101, North Manchester, passed away on July 14, 2021.

The memory of Arden E. Ayres will be cherished by his daughter, Becky Sue (David) Long; sons, Terry (Toni) Ayres, David (Sheri) Ayres, and Dennis (Annette) Ayres; brother, Bill (Clara) Ayres.

Calling Tuesday, July 20, 2021 from 4 to 7 p.m. at

McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester, Indiana. Funeral services will begin on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 2 p.m. at the Congregational Christian Church, 310 North Walnut Street, North Manchester, with calling beginning at 1 p.m.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Dean Wilhelm

Funeral services for Dean Wilhelm, are 2 pm, Wednesday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service. Burial in St. Peter’s Cemetery, Urbana. Visitation is 4-7 pm Tuesday, at the funeral home.

Religious freedom? Yeah, right

‘Freedom of speech is the air that any thinker breathes; it’s the fuel that ignites the fire of an intellectual’s thoughts.’ Raif Badawi dared to write such things in Saudi Arabia. And he exercised his own freedom of speech, asking questions about faith and challenging extremism in that country – so he was imprisoned for apostasy for 10 years. He was flogged, although he’s not yet received the 1,000 lashes he was sentenced to, because a doctor determined it was too much. He’s been separated from his young family since his detention in 2014.

His legal team has written of the various ways his imprisonment is unjust. In 2018, they wrote in Time: “His sentence of lashings was itself illegal – as physical torture is prohibited under the Arab Charter on Human Rights, ratified by Saudi Arabia in 2009, and the U.N.’s Convention Against Torture, which the nation ratified in 1997. The criminalization of Badawi was ultimately the criminalization of the protected rights he sought to exercise and of freedom itself.”

Badawi’s wife, Ensaf Haider, and

Kathryn Lopez



to Washington, D.C. this week for a summit organized by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF).

Nadine Maenza, commissioner of USCIRF, is determined to see Badawi reunited with his wife and children. And while he is the most celebrated prisoner of conscience she advocates for, he is far from alone. The summit is brimming over with people with stories of attacks on freedom and humanity.

Mariam Ibraheem is a Christian from Sudan who has lived to tell the story of her death sentence. When she married a Christian man, she was informed she had broken apostasy law. She was raised by her Christian mother after her Muslim father abandoned her, so

their three teenaged children are currently refugees in Canada, praying for Badawi to be freed to join them as a Canadian citizen. Haider is a petite powerhouse, and one of the nearly 1,000 who traveled

Sudan says she’s a Muslim apostate. She was imprisoned for refusing to recant her faith on Christmas Eve. She and her children were granted asylum by Italy in 2014 and they have since moved to the United States. From the stage at the summit, she declares, “My freedom is in Christ.”

At every turn, you run into someone extraordinary with a harrowing story. At lunch, I met an Ahmadi Muslim who is fighting blasphemous laws in Pakistan. Tursunay Ziyawudun, a Uyghur Muslim, described the “indelible scars” on her heart from the violence she suffered at the Chinese detention camps in Xinjiang. Others talked about the Iraq Christians who are languishing in a failing Lebanon, seven years after they fled from ISIS, not one of them having been granted refugee status. Iraqi Archbishop Bashar Warda was brokenhearted as he spoke about the men who are without jobs in Erbil.

Before I even entered the conference hotel on the closing day, I met Father Joseph Bature Fidelis, a Nigerian priest who, with the help of Aid for the Church in

Need, ministers to women who have been tortured by the terrorist group Boko Haram. When he and his bishop became aware of the depths of torture these women had undergone, the priest went to Italy for psychological training. The majority of Boko Haram’s victims are Christian, but there are some Muslim women, too, who wind up in the Catholic Church’s care. Without going into details, he tells me that is it not unusual for these women to be raped in the most brutal ways. He talks to me about his own faith and how God has been with him as he’s faced the heart of evil and its ravages.

Here in the United States, we face some challenges, but nothing like these stories. Which is why it’s so critical to advocate for the persecuted and defend religious freedom at home.

As we move out of COVID shutdowns, where religion was often deemed essential by the state, let the persecuted remind us of the fragility of religious freedom.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

Israel vows to act against Ben & Jerry’s

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel’s prime minister vowed Tuesday to “act aggressively” against the decision by Ben & Jerry’s to stop selling its ice cream in Israeli-occupied territories, as the country’s ambassador to the U.S. urged dozens of state governors to punish the company under anti-boycott laws. The strong reaction reflected concerns in Israel that the ice cream maker’s decision could lead other companies to follow suit.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett’s office said he spoke with Alan Jope, chief executive of Ben & Jerry’s parent company Unilever, and raised concern about what he called a “clearly anti-Israel step.” He said the move would have “serious consequences, legal and otherwise,” and Israel “will act aggressively against all boycott actions directed against its citizens.”

Questa awards Beckman Scholarship to MU student Samuel Springer

Questa Education Foundation has announced Samuel Springer, a student at Manchester University and graduate of Concordia Lutheran High School, has received a Walter and Lucile Beckman Scholarship, according to a press release.

These scholarship recipients are majoring in education, social work or related fields, currently in their senior year, and have been chosen for excellence in their college academic performance by maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA or higher during college.

PULSE

From page A1

1306 Beckley St., North Manchester; 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 10 at North Manchester United Methodist Church, 306 E. 2nd St., North Manchester; 2 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11 at Urbana Yoke Parish Community Center, 16 E. Half St., Urbana; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14 at Brandt's Harley Davidson, 1400 Cass St. If you are interested in other ways to get involved with the YPWC blood drive, email yp@growwabashcounty.com.

For more information, visit RedCrossBlood.org, reblood.org/fuel or reblood.org/CedarFair; call 800-RED-CROSS (800-733-2767); or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Chanticleer String Quartet to perform at Honeywell House

The Chanticleer String Quartet featuring Stefan Xhori, Caroline Klemperer Green, Jennifer Smith and Elizabeth Mendoza will perform live at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at the Honeywell House, 720 N. Wabash St. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/honeywell-house or call 260-563-1102.

Wabash Art Guild presents a watercolor workshop

The pre-registration deadline for Terry Armstrong's watercolor workshop is Friday, July 23. The event will be held on Thursday, Aug. 12 at the Wabash Christian Church, 110 W. Hill St., at the corner of Hill and Miami streets.

Set-up starts at 8:30 a.m. and the class will begin at 9 a.m. There will be a break to eat. The workshop will then continue and will continue until about 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.terryarmstrong.net or call 260-563-7690.

Christmas in July planned at Salamonie Lake

The public and campers are invited to join us for an assortment of activities at Salamonie Lake's Christmas in July from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 24 at 9214 W. Lost Bridge West, Andrews. Awards will be announced at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, July 25 at the Interpretive Shelter. Campsite reservations may be made by visiting camp.IN.gov or calling 866-622-6746.

Property entrance fees apply of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle. State Park annual entrance passes are available for purchase at the property gate.

Somerset Lions Club plans a euchre event

Somerset Lions Club has planned a euchre event for Saturday, July 24 at the Somerset Community Building, 21 W. Old Slocum Trail, Somerset. The entry fee will be \$10.

Registration will be from noon to 12:45 p.m. Play begins at 1 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded for most loners, highest score and second-highest score.

There will also be cash prizes for 50-50 drawings, with two drawings for the entry fee. Food including soft drinks, hot dogs, cookies and chips will be available for a donation. Proceeds will promote Somerset Lions projects.

DNR: Sick, dying songbirds seen across state

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Sick and dying songbirds stricken with an unexplained illness have now been found in three-quarters of Indiana's counties, state wildlife officials say.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources said the sick and dying songbirds have been discovered in 69 of Indiana's 92 counties, up from 53 counties two weeks ago, The Indianapolis Star reported.

The sick songbirds were initially found in late May in southern Indiana's Monroe County.

The DNR continues to investigate the

issue and the possible causes behind the sick birds. The state agency has asked people to take down bird feeders as they try to determine the cause or causes.

Sick songbirds have also been found in Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The birds show symptoms of neurological illness, such as eye swelling and crusty discharge around the eyes. Some have also been lethargic and weak, stumbled or had tremors.

Songbirds such as American robins, blue jays, grackles, starlings, and sparrows appear to be those that are

primarily affected. But brown-headed cowbirds, European starlings, house finches, northern cardinals, red-headed woodpeckers and wrens have also been found sick.

The DNR is just over three weeks into their investigation, and has sent several samples to the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory for testing.

Indiana residents can report any cases of sick birds they found to the DNR online at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife. They are urged to use disposable gloves and dispose of the bird in a plastic bag if they need to touch the bird.

Wabash St. The cost of the luncheon is \$25 per person and reservations are required. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/honeywell-house or call 260-563-1102.

Wabash County Festivals Pageant set for July 30

The 31st annual Wabash County Festivals Pageant will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, July 30 in the Ford Theater at the Honeywell Center. Admission to the pageant is \$5 for persons 6 and older. Children under 6 are free. If you would like the Queen and Court to appear at an event, contact one of the directors for the pageant including Kara Fulmer, Patty Meagher, Makayla Ridgeway, Teresa Ridgeway and Bev Vanderpool.

Local Beehive Trolley No. 85 Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced that tickets are now on sale for the Local Beehive Trolley No. 85 Tour, which will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 31 and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center in downtown Wabash. The two local beehive stops include Bizzy Beez and Wiled Miles Honey.

Tickets for the Local Beehive Trolley No. 85 Tour are \$25 per person and are all-inclusive. This is a tour for those ages 10 and up and there will be average walking required with some uneven ground.

To purchase tickets online, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours. You may also stop in the Welcome Center at 221 S. Miami St., or call 260-563-7171. Payment is due upon registration.

Kiwanis Bucket Brigade returns for 2021

The Wabash Kiwanis Club supports Riley Hospital for Children with its 24th annual Bucket Brigade fundraiser from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 31 at the following times and locations: 7 to 10 a.m. at Modoc's Market, 205 S. Miami St.; 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Fried Egg, 1319 N. Cass St.; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Walmart of Wabash, 1601 N. Cass St.; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wabash Hardware & Rental, 1351 N. Cass St.; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bechtol Grocery, 120 Hale Drive. Supporters may also send a check to the Wabash Kiwanis Club at P.O. Box 699, Wabash, IN 46992, with "Bucket Brigade" listed in the memo line.

For more information, email eseamann@honeywellfoundation.org.

Beacon Credit Union kicks off its 10th Annual Project Spotlight Voting

Beacon Credit Union's Project Spotlight voting runs through Saturday, July 31. Everyone in the community is encouraged to vote for their favorite cause either online or in their local Beacon Member Center. Visit https://www.beaconcu.org/project-spotlight/ for more information.

INDOT begins maintenance work on Indiana 13 bridge over Mississinewa

INDOT announced bridge maintenance work would soon begin on Indiana 13 over the Mississinewa River. Crews will be conducting the bridgework seven miles

south of Wabash between Whites Drive and Howell Road. The work is expected to last until mid-August. During construction, Indiana 13 will be reduced to one lane. Traffic should be prepared to stop and obey the temporary traffic signal. There's a width limit of 12 feet in the project zone.

YMCA offers summer meals

The Wabash County YMCA announced their free breakfast and lunch program for children ages 18 and under will be from 8 to 9 a.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch Mondays through Fridays, through Friday, Aug. 6, at 500 S. Cass St.

For more information, visit www.wabashcountyymca.org or email info@wabashcountymca.org.

Salamonie Preschool offers 'S is for Snake' on Aug. 11

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "S is for Snake." Children ages 2 to 5 and their adults are welcome to attend the class from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11 at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews, located in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area.

The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling 260-468-2127.

For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

'Liking for Biking' returns

Through Saturday, Aug. 28, anyone of any age or skill level who is interested in a free, family-friendly hour-long bike ride is invited to meet at 8:45 a.m. each Saturday at Paradise Spring Historical Park's upper pavilion, 351 W. Market St. Helmets are required. The next health assessment will take place at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 28 inside of door 10 at Parkview Wabash Hospital, 10 John Kissinger Drive, while the rest of the rides will start at Paradise Spring Historical Park with wheels rolling at 9 a.m.

For more information, www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series or call 260-563-7171.

Salamonie Forest Preschool to begin in September

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from September 2021 through May 2022 for one Tuesday a month or two Tuesdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area. Classes for the once a month option will be held Tuesdays including Sept. 14, 2021; Oct. 5, 2021; Nov. 2, 2021; Dec. 7, 2021; Jan. 4, 2022; Feb. 1, 2022; March 1, 2022; April 12, 2022; and May 3, 2022. Classes for the second meeting time each month will also be held Tuesdays including Sept. 28, 2021; Oct. 19, 2021; Nov. 16, 2021; Dec. 21, 2021; Jan. 18, 2022; Feb. 15, 2022; March 15, 2022; April 26, 2022; and May 17, 2022. The program fee for the package of nine once-a-month sessions is \$60 per child ages 3 to 5. Additional siblings are \$35.

The program fee for the package of 18 twice a month sessions is \$100 per child, and additional siblings are \$75. Advance registration is required. Register by calling

260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Dr. Ford Home announces 'fun, family-friendly' event lineup

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment welcomes guests of all ages to Dr. James Ford Historic Home, 177 W. Hill St., for a full schedule of fun, family-friendly events in 2021, including The American Front Porch at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14; Autumn Festival from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1; Trick or Treat at the Home during the city of Wabash's trick-or-treat hours; and Wabash and Erie Canal history program with Jeff Koehler at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/dr-ford-home.

Manchester Civic Band plans live performances

Manchester Civic Band performances at Peabody Retirement Community have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 22 and Dec. 1. This year's Timbercrest Retirement Community performances have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 29 and Dec. 8. They have tentatively scheduled performances for Saturday, Oct. 2 for a concert at Harvest Fest; the North Manchester Fun Fest parade; and at Doud's Orchard Open House in Denver, Indiana.

Downtown Wabash Farmers' Market running every Saturday

The Downtown Wabash Farmers' Market continues its 2021 season from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays through Saturday, Sept. 26 in the Honeywell Center/ Wabash Elks parking lot on the corner of Cass and Market St. To become a vendor for the 2021 Market, visit WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market or call 260-563-0975. For more information about Downtown Wabash Farmers' Market, visit WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market.

8th annual Car and Bike Show Bike Ride for Riley Kids planned

The Clown Town Motorcycles and Sharp Shooters Express will present the 8th annual Car and Bike Show Bike Ride for Riley Kids on Saturday, Oct. 2 at the American Legion Post No. 248, 800 Washington St., Lagro. Car show registration will be \$15 per car and will begin at 11 a.m., with kickstands up and entertainment starting at noon.

For more information, call 260-466-7655.

Salamonie 'Tweens Among the Trees' Forest School planned

Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from November 2021 through April 2022 at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The class will be offered one Wednesday a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesdays: Nov. 3, 2021; Dec. 8, 2021; Jan. 5, 2022; Feb. 2, 2022; March 2, 2020; and April 20,

2022. The program fee for the package of six sessions is \$60 per child, ages 6 to 13; additional siblings are \$50. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Honeywell Ladies Golf Association season continues

The Tuesday Honeywell Ladies Golf Association (LGA) will begin their season with a 9 a.m. shotgun Tuesdays, according to Lana Garber. The yearly dues of \$15 will be taken then. New members are welcome. Arrive at 8:30 a.m. All Tuesday events are scrambles. Register in the clubhouse by noon Monday.

Honeywell Pool to open on a limited basis

For the time being, the Mark C. Honeywell Pool will be open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays each week. For more information, visit www.wabashcountymca.org.

'Explore Salamonie' hikes to be held monthly

Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services for an "Explore Salamonie" hike at 5 p.m. during each month's first Saturday through September at Salamonie's Interpretive and Nature Center at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127. Property entrance fees of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle apply. State Park Annual Entrance Passes are available for purchase.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering.

Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times.

For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabash-plainedealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

Lutz leaves mark at Wabash with signing to LTC

She helped her team finish with a 9-3-1 record

By CLAY MAXFIELD
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

When Madison Lutz began her soccer career for the first time her freshman year at Wabash High School, she didn't expect it to take her to the heights she has experienced recently. In June, Lutz signed her letter of intent to play with the Lincoln Trail Statesman while majoring in nursing.

Lutz will be just the second student-athlete at Lincoln Trail to have played a sport while majoring in nursing but regardless of the full plate that awaits her, she is more than ready to take on the challenge.

"I cannot see my future without playing this sport," Lutz said. "They told me it's going to be hard but I'm going to try it and I hope that it works out."

In regards to her on the field accomplishments with the Apaches, went from having zero experience playing organized soccer her freshman year to tallying the third-most goals her senior year, with six, while helping her team finish with a 9-3-1 record.

Wabash head coach Keisha Wright said the combination of Lutz's work

ethic and athletic ability put her in a prime position to succeed from the beginning.

"She was someone who had so much natural speed and was such a fantastic athlete to work with. Once she started to learn how the game worked and what she could do to best help the team, she really worked at it," said Wright.

Ultimately, Coach Wright's coaching and guidance helped Lutz become Wabash's first collegiate signing from the girls soccer program.

"I'm just really excited. I'm glad that I'm representing Wabash going into the collegiate level and I think it's going to be tough but I want to show everybody that you just have to put the work in to be good," Lutz said.

As for the future of Lutz's playing career, Wright believes the sky is the limit.

"It really speaks a lot to her being the epitome of a coach-able player," Wright said. "For someone that wasn't starting at first, it could be easy to quit but instead she just kept her nose down, kept working and kept asking questions and staying after practice. That's exactly what it takes to be a college athlete."

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.



Provided photo

In June, Madison Lutz signed her letter of intent to play with the Lincoln Trail Statesman while majoring in nursing.



Simone Biles competes in the floor exercise during the women's U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Trials in St. Louis on June 25.

SUMMER OLYMPICS 2020

Slogan: "United By Emotion"

Mascot: "Miraitowa," a large-eyed, large-eared character styled after the blue-and-white checkered pattern of the Tokyo 2020 Games emblem.

Medals Makeup: All the Olympic medals are made of metals extracted from more than 6 million old mobile phones and small electronic devices collected around Japan during a two-year donation drive.

Number of medals Americans won in the 2016 Summer Games: 121, including 46 Golds.

New Events: 3-on-3 basketball, sport climbing, surfing and skateboarding.

Noteworthy: Olympic venues are going to be mostly quiet compared to past Games as Japan is not allowing spectators into the events because of its state of emergency in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

ATHLETES HAVE GOLDEN HOPES FOR CHANGED TOKYO GAMES

By EDDIE PELLIS • National Sports Writer

For more than 100 years, the lead-up to the Olympics, as well as the Games themselves, have been as precisely choreographed as a Simone Biles floor routine.

In 2021, the world's best gymnast appears ready to deliver. The Olympics, on the other hand, have been a make-it-up-as-you-go proposition for more than a year now. That doesn't figure to change much when they officially open July 23 in Japan.

The COVID-19 pandemic, debates over the IOC's handling of athlete rights and welfare, the ritual cycle of doping scandals and a general feeling that many in the host country do not want thousands of outsiders entering their borders are among the hot-button issues that have enveloped the run-up to these history-making Games.

Biles will take over the spotlight that, over recent Olympiads, had been commanded by Usain Bolt and Michael Phelps. But the absence of those now-retired champions hardly begins to explain all that has changed since the last time the world gathered for a Summer Games five years ago.

At these Games — delayed by a year because of the pandemic, making them the first to be held in an odd-numbered year since the modern era began in 1896 -- Biles will compete in front of a mostly empty arena. Fans will not be allowed because Japan is under a state of emergency as it continues to grapple with the virus.

The 24-year-old defending Olympic champion's relentless pursuit of perfection, and progression, is punctuated by an all-or-nothing vault that no woman before

her dared even try. Biles' performances will be the centerpiece of the action, which will take place over 17 days in more than three dozen venues in Tokyo.

WATCH FOR DEMONSTRATIONS

Another focal point will be the medals stand.

In the wake of a summer of social unrest in the United States in 2020, black sports figures sparked a conversation about how to use their Olympic platform to spread their message. Among the most vocal athletes have been hammer thrower Gwen Berry and sprinter Noah Lyles, who want to highlight racial inequality in America.

They helped push the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee hard on the issue and the USOPC determined it will not punish athletes who demonstrate on medals stands, starting line or anywhere else on the field of play.

The IOC has reluctantly agreed to some relaxation of the rule that bars demonstrations, but has not taken it off the books. It's that same restriction that led to the dismissal of U.S. sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos from the Mexico City Games in 1968 for raising their fists on the stand.

In the summer of 2021, the issue of athletes' rights involves more than a single country or a single issue.

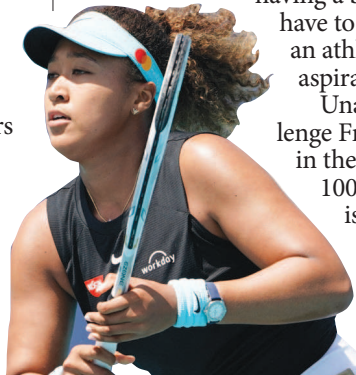
The growingly fraught conundrum of mental health has never been more

relevant than this year. Some 11,000 of the world's most finely-tuned athletes, many of whom put their dreams on hold and kept training for an extra year, have been asked to head into a country that has not yet contained COVID for their once-in-a-lifetime chance to compete on sports' biggest stage. They will be there largely without friends and family, without fans in the stands, and without much chance to go anywhere other than the training gym, the competition venue and their hotel.

The effects of those strains might have been most acutely illustrated earlier this summer by tennis champion Naomi Osaka, who will compete for the host country over the first week of action in Japan's steamy capital. Her withdrawal from the French Open and Wimbledon came with the bracing reminder that there is more to the games, and the attention that surrounds them, than just lacing up a pair of shoes and hitting the court.

Osaka will be there. So will sprinters Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce and Allyson Felix. Both are in their 30s, and both have been front and center in the discussion about women's rights in sports — namely, in their push to show the world that having a baby does not have to put an end to an athlete's Olympic aspirations.

Unable to challenge Fraser-Pryce in the women's 100-meter race is American champion



Naomi Osaka

Sha'Carri Richardson. She was banned for using marijuana at the Olympic trials — a penalty that put doping back in the Olympic spotlight.

THE GAMES MUST GO ON

All of this is what \$25 billion buys a country these days. That's one of a handful of ballpark guesses of the cost of an Olympics that was awarded to Japan back in 2013, with the thought that Tokyo would be a "safe" choice during a time of a global recession.

Money is a reason some cynics (and realists) believe Olympic administrators have been so determined to make these Games happen. They are pressing forward in the face of negative polling throughout Tokyo along with health warnings that have persisted in a country where less than 20% of its citizens were vaccinated as of early July.

With no fans allowed in the venues, this will be an event to be seen almost exclusively on TVs and iPhones and computer screens. Four new events are being added that were, in part, designed to reach a younger audience with different viewing habits: 3-on-3 basketball, sport climbing, surfing and skateboarding.

Nothing on the Olympic horizon, though, feels newer and shinier than the prospect of seeing Biles on the floor. In Tokyo, she could very well be the closest thing there is to a sure thing. Given what the world went through just to get to these Olympics, that really is saying something.



CONTENT BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

USA women's soccer shuts out the noise in quest for 5th gold medal

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

TOKYO — The U.S. women's national soccer team is in a bubble of its own making for the Tokyo Olympics, and it's not just because of coronavirus restrictions.

The World Cup champions have become adept at shutting out all the outside noise — the seemingly endless social media debates, the TV punditry and even the trash talk

that comes with being the best in the world.

"I think, especially the players that have been through these major tournaments, you figure out how to stay in the best mental headspace and sometimes that's compartmentalizing, that's focusing on one thing at a time and trying not to let the noise get into what we like to call the bubble," defender Becky Sauerbrunn said. "So like, secure the bubble, protect the bubble."

The women's Olympic soccer tournament starts on Wednesday. The United States, the top-ranked team in the world and the favorite to win, opens against Sweden at Tokyo Stadium.

The Americans are vying for their fifth gold medal, more than any other national team. They can also become the first women to win an Olympic gold following a World Cup title.

There's reason to believe they'll do just that. The group is undefeated in

44 straight games, the second-longest unbeaten streak in team history. It's a deep squad with a formidable attack: Seventeen of the players were on the World Cup squad.

Christen Press has been directly involved in 37 goals in her last 37 matches, with 16 goals and 18 assists. Megan Rapinoe, the unabashedly outspoken winger with purple hair, leads the team with seven goals this year.

Quietly holding down the defense

is goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher, who has six shutouts in nine starts this year.

Naeher is perhaps the leader on the team when it comes to shutting out the noise. She eschewed all social media during the team's run in France two years ago, and often worked on crossword puzzles before matches to chill out before games.

"Everything's all about compartmentalizing," the softspoken Naeher said.

Woman continues to hide ex’s double life

DEAR ABBY: I broke up with my boyfriend a few months ago, but I’m still having a difficult time getting over him. I discovered he was responding to sexual messages from men and sending them pictures of himself, including his body parts. I feel this is the biggest betrayal any woman could experience, and keeping the truth from our mutual friends has been difficult.

Dear Abby



When people ask me what caused the breakup, I have to deny the truth and tell them we just grew apart. Now I wonder if he ever loved me or was he just using me because I was the breadwinner while he stayed home. I keep wondering if all those times he claimed to be at the gym was he really there? Please help me. — Broken Dignity In California

DEAR BROKEN: That your boyfriend wasn’t honest about the fact that he was bisexual and unfaithful was, indeed, a betrayal. I also agree that all those times he claimed to be “at the gym” he was likely WITH “Jim.” That you supported him financially while he involved himself with others — regardless of their gender — was another betrayal.

You should be on your knees thanking your higher power you learned what was going on before you wasted more time (or money) on him. Quit covering for him by lying to your friends about what happened. You are not the first woman to fall for a cheater and you won’t be the last.

P.S. If you haven’t already contacted your doctor to be tested for STDs, the time is now.

DEAR ABBY: A close friend of mine hadn’t been feeling well. After seeing her doctor for a full day of tests she met up with me, and I listened to her concerns. Before I could stop myself, I blurted out, “God, I hope you don’t have cancer!” She became very upset because of my comment and made me feel guilty for even mentioning it. While I meant my remark to be more caring than callous, it backfired.

With cancer so prevalent in today’s society, when is it OK to talk about it? Is it something we tiptoe around and discuss only after a full diagnosis? I regret my words, and need to know how I can become a more caring, supportive friend. — Oops, In Florida

DEAR “OOPS”: Cancer, like other illnesses that can be fatal, should be discussed when and if the person has the diagnosis, reveals it AND FEELS THE NEED TO DISCUSS IT.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for 46 years. The only disagreement we have had during all this time is my hairstyle. Growing up, I had curly (kinky) hair, for which I was bullied and teased. I feel secure and safe when I straighten it. He loves it curly.

I feel insecure and sad when I try to make him happy. Because I feel so much better with straight hair, I don’t think I can honor his wishes. To some people, this may seem trivial, but it’s a major issue in our home. I would appreciate your advice. — “Hair-Don’t” Out West

DEAR “HAIR-DON’T”: My advice is, to thine own self be true. If you feel depressed and insecure with curly hair, then you should not feel forced to wear it that way. It’s your head and your feelings, and your husband will have to adjust and accept it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 “— House”
 - 7 Consomme
 - 12 Team spirit
 - 13 Weep noisily
 - 14 Is of use
 - 15 Discernment
 - 16 Dapper
 - 17 Havens
 - 18 Cruising
 - 19 Make tracks
 - 20 Calls it quits
 - 24 No future —
 - 26 Foal’s parent
 - 27 Kiosk buy, slangily
 - 30 Pass a bill
 - 33 Tampa Bay NFLer
 - 34 Cassius Clay
 - 35 Spirit in a bottle
 - 36 Barracks off.
 - 37 It may be read
 - 39 Strong haulers
 - 41 In — (as found)

- 42 A Little Woman
- 43 Sci-fi landers
- 47 Do in
- 49 Market worth
- 50 Dough
- 53 Treaty ratifier
- 54 Worm seekers
- 55 Sounded like a clock
- 56 Cactus defense
- 57 Mocks

- DOWN**
- 1 Fridge maker
 - 2 Exploding stars
 - 3 In a foul mood
 - 4 Rum drink (2 wds.)
 - 5 Join forces
 - 6 “— Misera- bles”
 - 7 Spring beer
 - 8 Awakens
 - 9 Resistance unit
 - 10 Single digit
 - 11 Sweetie- pie

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	O	P	A	T	M	D	A	H	S
E	K	E	R	A	T	S	E	X	A
I	R	A	E	N	V	I	P	E	R
R	A	K	I	N	G	M	A	L	L
C	A	I	P	R	O				
G	Y	R	O	S	S	T	A	I	E
P	E	O	N	B	L	O	B	N	U
A	L	S	L	O	A	M	I	C	A
L	A	Z	I	L	I	W	I	D	T
E	D	S	K	I	N				
T	H	I	R	S	T	E	L	I	C
A	U	T	O	E	R	A	T	O	O
T	R	E	E	R	U	N	E	A	W
A	L	M	S	B	I	D	L	A	Y

- 13 Tractor’s garage
- 17 Indepen- dence
- 19 Take a cab
- 21 Birds’ beaks
- 22 Germ killer
- 23 Minority group
- 25 Complain persistently
- 27 Glove com- partment items
- 28 Range in Asia
- 29 Thin gold layer
- 31 Elf (Var.)
- 32 Plumbing joint
- 38 Sheet material
- 40 Faint difference
- 42 Pleased sighs
- 44 Snow crystal
- 45 Toward the edge
- 46 Pits or stones
- 48 Bowling alley
- 49 Marble streak
- 50 Fem. title
- 51 Caveman Alley —
- 52 Geisha’s tie
- 53 Urban rds.

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
12							13				
14							15				
16											
18						17					
			24	25				26			
27	28	29		30			31	32		33	
34				35						36	
37			38			39			40		
41					42				43	44	45
			47	48				49			
50	51	52					53				
54							55				
56							57				

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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

		8		4	5	2	9		
	5								
			3	7			5	8	
		6	7	8			2	4	
	8	7		3		5	6		
4	1			2	6	9			
8	2			9	7				
							7		
	7	5	2	1		8			

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION																	
6	9	3	2	1	8	7	5	4									
1	5	8	7	9	4	2	6	3									
7	4	2	5	3	6	9	1	8									
3	7	6	1	8	5	4	9	2									
5	1	4	9	7	2	8	3	6									
8	2	9	4	6	3	5	7	1									
4	8	1	6	5	7	3	2	9									
2	6	7	3	4	9	1	8	5									
9	3	5	8	2	1	6	4	7									

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NIRDBG

TCOLH

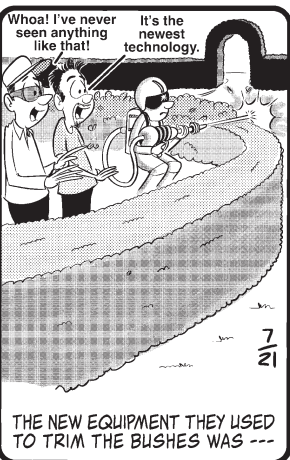
TAYERG

UDNNEO

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



THE NEW EQUIPMENT THEY USED TO TRIM THE BUSHES WAS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

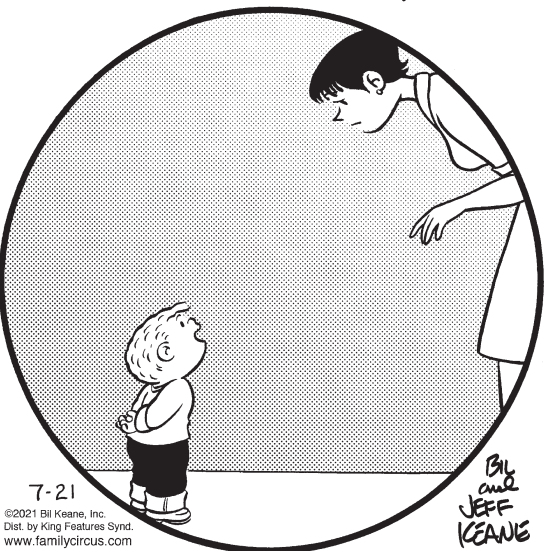
“ _____ ”

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday’s Jumbles: ALLOW RUGBY STINKY EXHALE
Answer: After raising their prices, the bistro at the vineyard turned into a — “WHINE” BAR

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



“Now that I stopped sucking my thumb, I only have a couple more things to learn to be a teenager!”

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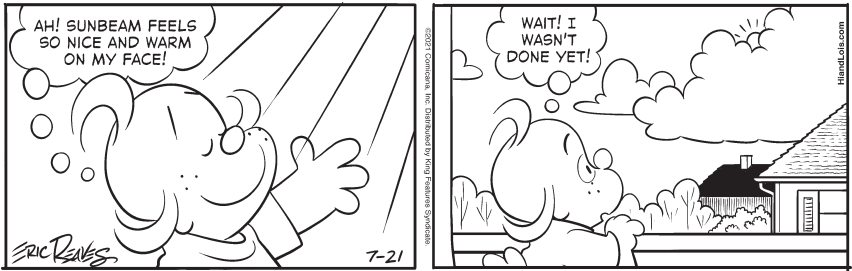
BEEBLE BAILEY



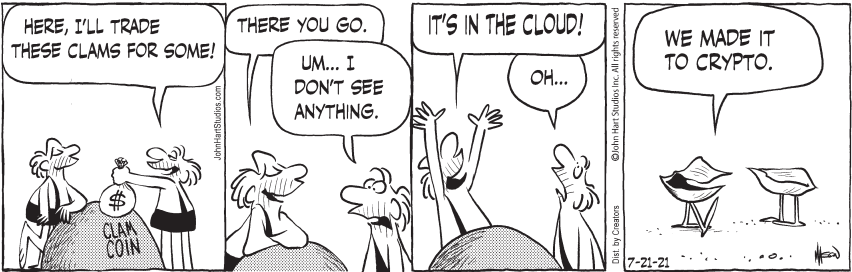
BLONDIE



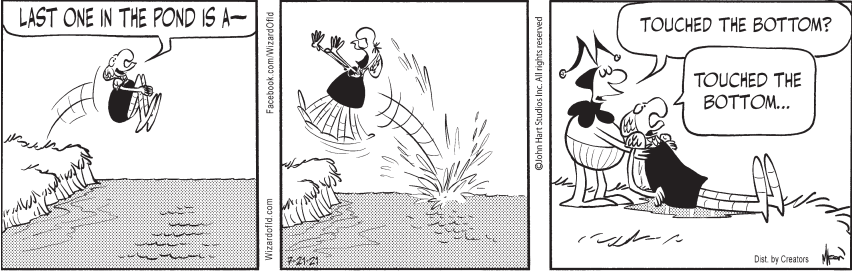
HI & LOIS



BC



WIZARD OF ID



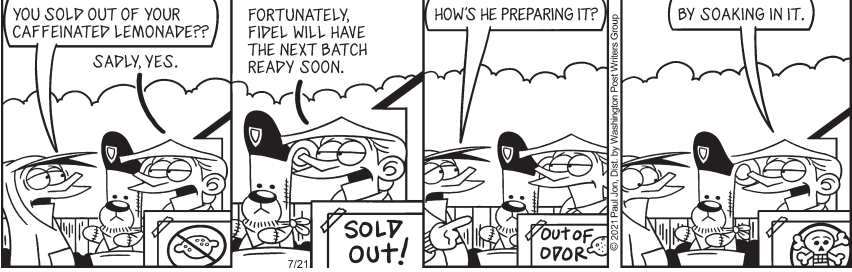
DILBERT



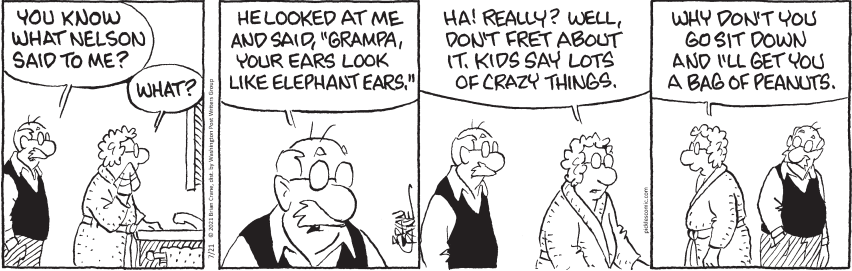
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



God wants us to know Him

Q: Do atheists really disbelieve that there is an all-knowing God and that death is the end of ourselves, the end of life completely? — E.L.

A: On a visit to the Soviet Union’s famed “Academic City,” a distinguished scholar from one of the finest research centers in Siberia said that while he was an atheist, he agreed that belief in a divine power was universal.

Down inside, we all sense there is Someone greater than ourselves. We also sense that death must not be the end, but there must be something beyond the grave. The Bible says that God has set eternity in the hearts of people (see Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Some picture God as a kindly old grandfather with a long white beard and a vague smile. Others see Him

as a stern policeman, always ready to punish us if we get out of line. Still others conclude that God must be like their own father might have been, indifferent or cold or never satisfied, because we always fall short of what He demands. And some believe God is only an impersonal force (somewhat like gravity or magnetism), or they conclude we can’t know anything for certain about Him. Your guess about God, they say, is just as good (or bad) as mine. And some people, of course, reject the whole idea of God.

Some say that it is just too narrow to believe in only one God and one way. Sadly, most speculations about God miss one very important truth. God wants us to know Him. We don’t have to guess about who He is because God has revealed Himself to us. His footprints are everywhere. His very image is in our DNA. The Bible tells us that God has not left Himself without testimony. “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen” (Romans 1:20). Trust in Him today.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ J E D C Z E X X O B R P V P V B M R W I P
X I E R W K J M P I H R Z E F W S ? P H O D R D U
B Z V X I E R W R X W Z R J - R O I W W K E I W . ”
— K P N O B W S N E Z Z W S S J

Previous Solution: “When I’m stirring a saucepan, I don’t say to myself, ‘Now the chancellor is stirring a saucepan.’” — Angela Merkel

TODAY’S CLUE: A s n d a p s

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact
your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
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LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



Do not say, "I will repay evil"; wait for the LORD, and he will deliver you.
Proverbs 20:22

Cash for kids: Why Biden's big idea has real promise

It's not the government's money. It's the people's money." So said George W. Bush 20 years ago, arguing to turn a federal surplus into a huge tax cut. There was wisdom to the insight, if not to how he wanted to rejigger who owed what to the government, which was far too skewed to aid the wealthiest among us.

A far better idea is now being delivered to millions of families courtesy of the American Rescue Plan (which, recall, all Republicans in Congress opposed): monthly payments of up to \$300 or \$250 per child, for a total of \$3,600 for children under the age of 6 and \$3,000 for children between 6 and 17. If your child

turns 18 this year, sorry, you won't get the cash.

The enhanced child tax credit – a boost over the flat \$2,000 per kid on tax returns – isn't cheap, but it's the most family-friendly thing anyone in Washington has done in quite a while, with the potential to deal a big blow to childhood poverty. Columbia's Center on Policy and Social Policy projects child poverty rates will drop from 14 percent to about 7.5 percent. As Biden might call it, that's a BFD.

(A bigger deal still would be building on this by finally guaranteeing paid leave to working moms and dads, among other long-overdue adjustments in Biden's American Families Plan.)

The cash is sure to juice consumer spending, as families have a little extra. That'll help an economy that's still regaining its footing and trying to fully exit COVID – which, ahem, is far from over, especially where vaccinations lag.

Once American families get used to such a benefit, who's got the gall to wrest it away from them? What does the extra cash do to inflation that's already at a 13-year-high? And how much more rising debt – which Republicans under Donald Trump made an art of ignoring – can the federal budget absorb? In the end, it's not the government's red ink; it's the people's red ink.

This editorial was first published in the New York Daily News.



Indiana's revenue surge means surprise refunds, resilient budgets

By **CHRIS WATTS**
Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute

Last July, the COVID crisis had crushed Indiana tax collections by more than a billion dollars, and budget officials were bracing for the worst. But a year later, revenues are surging enough to give Hoosiers an automatic income tax refund in 2022. What's the story behind state and local finances, and why does it matter beyond the unexpected credit on next year's tax return?

In mid-April, Indiana's forecast committee added \$463 million to its December revenue projections for Fiscal Year 2021 (which ended June 30) and boosted earlier estimates for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 (the new state budget cycle) by nearly \$2 billion. The news helped Gov. Eric Holcomb and the General Assembly reach a two-year spending deal featuring more than \$16 billion for local schools.

Even these predictions aren't optimistic enough so far. Revenues from April through June beat the revised forecast by \$1.2 billion, pushing Indiana's surplus to more than \$3.9 billion. By law, \$1.09 billion of that total will be divided equally between teacher pension funds and automatic tax refunds.

Many states find themselves in surprisingly good fiscal shape emerging from the pandemic. In Indiana's case, sales tax revenue was solid in 2020 (helped by federal stimulus spurring consumer spending and a 2019 decision to tax more online purchases) and much of the impact on income taxes was timing: the extended filing deadline in 2020 pushed about \$900 million in tax payments into a new fiscal year.

The outlook for local governments is less celebratory (and more complicated) but still confident

as counties, cities and towns craft 2022 budgets.

Property taxes are still the largest source of local revenue. Tax assessments are based on real estate trends, and the housing market is booming in many parts of Indiana. Residential property values (measured by the federal Home Price Index) for 2020 and 2021 (so far) are growing twice as fast as the annual average since 2010.

Indiana's property tax caps limit individual bills to a percentage of assessed value for homeowners (1 percent), farmers and landlords (2 percent) and commercial properties (3 percent). But local governments also face a restriction on the total property tax revenue they can collect, the maximum levy. It's worth a little explanation.

This maximum levy is only allowed to increase each year as fast as the six-year average growth of Indiana's non-farm personal income. This formula has been around since 2002 to protect homeowners when property values rose faster than wages.

The 2022 calculation was announced two weeks ago. Because personal income includes unemployment benefits and certain federal programs, and higher-paying jobs bounced back faster than overall employment across the state, it rose nearly 5.9 percent in 2020 – the highest of the last six years, nudging the average to 4.3 percent and adding some breathing room to the local tax base. Based on taxable income and earnings data, local income tax distributions also look stable for 2022.

Beyond "own source" tax revenues, budgets got a shot in the arm – so to speak – from the federal American Rescue Plan Act. ARPA sent more than \$7.5 billion in flexible aid to Indiana, divided among state government, school districts,

cities and counties. The non-school funds can be used through 2026 for economic recovery, health and safety programs, emergency pay for front-line employees, infrastructure (especially broadband and water system upgrades) and filling COVID-related revenue gaps.

Indiana also used part of the state's ARPA funding to launch the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI), a \$500 million grant program encouraging regional planning across at least two counties focused primarily on talent attraction. Eighteen READI partnerships across the state are working on development plans due by August 31st.

For many of you, the most exciting part of the last 600 words was the tax refund – fair enough. But Indiana also has plenty of long-term challenges competing for attention: Population growth slowing since the 1990s, an aging workforce, educational achievement and attainment gaps that limit our potential to create high-paying jobs and attract new business investment.

Heading into 2019, Indiana's per capita state and local revenue hadn't even recovered from the Great Recession after a decade of expansion. This time around, we have the resources to build economic resilience – investing in schools and a better-prepared workforce, infrastructure to support growth, local services and regional quality of life projects to sway more people and employers to choose Indiana. This post-COVID fiscal climate may not last, but the budget choices we make with it can have a lasting impact.

Chris Watts is the president of the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute, which is the state's only independent, impartial research organization focused on tax and budgetary issues since 1987.

How to spend my tax refund

I so want to be a good Hoosier, an upstanding citizen who will do the right thing.

But Indiana officials are set to give me some money, and I'm terrified that I will squander it on frivolities and let my beloved state down.

Well, not "give" me money exactly. So that I won't be tempted by a sudden infusion of cash, they plan to disguise the gift as a "tax credit" when I prepare my 2021 return sometime next year. That might result in a larger-than-expected refund, or perhaps I will owe the state less than I ordinarily would have.



To give our officials credit, they made heroic efforts to keep the money in state coffers instead of letting it escape into the economy to corrupt the public morality.

When legislators approved a law capping the state's surplus at 12.5 percent of spending – with half the extra going to taxpayers if the threshold were hit – most of us recognized it as a mere goodwill gesture. Nobody really expected the state to give money back to the people from whom it was taken, which goes against the natural order of things.

But to our horror, that trigger was hit in 2012, and every individual income tax filer got a \$111 refund. And we all remember the wild abandon in 2012 – sometimes still referred to as the Year of Debauchery – when Hoosiers succumbed to an orgy of reckless extravagance.

And this year, the unthinkable – an even greater surplus of \$3.9 billion. A whopping 23 percent of state spending, requiring nearly \$2 billion in refunds.

Legislators, bless their hearts, tried to avoid that disaster by draining the reserves as quickly as they could – a few hundred million here for the teacher pension fund, a hundred million there to pay off construction loans early. But that still left \$545 million required as a handout to Hoosiers.

At least officials are trying to dampen our enthusiasm. Though the surplus is more than it was in 2012, they warn, there will be more taxpayers to split it among, so we should not be expecting any great windfall.

I appreciate the effort – really, I do – but I fear the damage has been done. I am already planning on ways to spend the money, and I do not admire the avaricious person I am becoming.

I might buy a whole tank of gas at once. Imagine being able to travel nearly 400 miles without even stopping to refuel. The mind boggles.

If there's enough left over, I've narrowed it down to two choices. I might get a haircut – by a professional who actually went to school to train for it. Or I might go out for dinner – not a quick trip to a fast-food place, but a real meal at a sit-down restaurant.

You can see the problem.

Not only am I thinking of being selfish – abusing the state's largesse by spending the money on myself alone – but incredibly shortsighted. A car trip that lasts but a few hours? A haircut that would need to be repeated in just a few weeks? One meal that would be digested overnight?

I've thought and thought, and I think I have a solution.

I will use Indiana's wonderful gift to me – however much it might be – to buy state lottery tickets.

That means the money will go back to the state where it belongs, taken custody of by sensitive civil servants who would spend the money much more wisely and fairly than I ever could.

And there is a 1-in-9.4 million chance I will win the top prize.

Damn good odds for a taxpayer.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoedits@yahoo.com.

LETTERS

Southwest drought causing water shortage

Lake Mead at the Hoover Dam is at 37 percent capacity, which is the lowest level since the 1930s. It provides water to about 40 million people in Nevada, Arizona and California, but a severe drought and diminished snowfall in the Rocky Mountains have significantly reduced the supply of water. Other lakes in the region are at historically low levels.

It appears current water conservation measures will have to continue and probably be expanded in the Southwest along with the reuse of treated wastewater for agriculture.

Although seawater desalination plants are costly, typically about \$4 billion, the people in the Southwest need drinking and agricultural water to survive. There are about 20,000 plants in the world, including a plant near San Diego providing 50 million gallons of water per day to 10 percent of residents. Another 10 plants operate in California and 10 more are proposed.

Drawbacks of desalination plants include construction costs, high cost to produce the water, disposal of briny residue water and impacts on sea life, but the cost of running out of water far exceeds the costs associated with desalination plants.

Although desalination plants

might only provide 10 percent to 20 percent of water consumption, the plants and pipeline delivery systems in the Southwest region are needed to help replace the lower supply from the Colorado River.

Donald Moskowitz Londonderry, New Hampshire

USDA should not expand slaughterhouse capacity

I was sad to learn the United States Department of Agriculture is spending \$500 million in the form of grants, loans and technical assistance to expand slaughterhouse capacity. Instead, the federal government should fund cultured-meat

research. For those who don't know, cultured meat is grown from cells, without killing. It's better for animal welfare, the environment, and public health.

Members of Congress should do everything in their power to bring cultured meat to market as fast as possible, at a competitive price with slaughtered meat. Among other things, this means legislators should support government funding for cellular-agriculture research. While the private sector has made admirable progress in the field, federal investment would truly allow it to take off.

Jon Hochschartner Granby, Connecticut



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IN THE WABASH SUPERIOR COURT
) SS:
COUNTY OF WABASH)
CAUSE NO. 85D01-2106-MF-000421

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE,
FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE CIM TRUST 2021-NR2, MORTGAGE-
BACKED NOTES, SERIES 2021-NR2,

Plaintiff,

vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF PATRICIA L. WAKE,
DECEASED AND THE UNKNOWN TENANT,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the Defendant(s) above named, and any
other person who may be concerned.
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The nature of the suit against you is:

Complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage on Real Estate
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THE WEST 1/2 OF LOT 6 AND 7 IN COLLEGE VIEW ADDITION TO
THE TOWN OF NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA, ACCORDING TO
THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.

This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following
named defendant(s): The Unknown Tenant
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following
named defendant(s)
whose whereabouts are unknown: The Unknown Heirs and Devisees
of Patricia L. Wake, Deceased
If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same
transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer or
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You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney,
within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to
do so a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief
demanded, by the Plaintiff.

FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.

By /s/ Matthew S. Love
MATTHEW S. LOVE
Attorney No. 18762-29
Attorney for Plaintiff

MATTHEW S. LOVE
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Wabash Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Tri Kappa awards scholarships

STAFF REPORT

Each year the Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Tri Kappa awards two different scholarships to seniors in Wabash; a Grant-in-Aid and Lulu Baer, according to a press release.

The Grant-in-Aid Scholarship is awarded to one senior from each of the high schools in Wabash, including Northfield, Southwood and Wabash. The recipients of this scholarship are determined based on the quality of their application, desire and dedication to their chosen course of study, and need for the scholarship. Due to the generosity of the Wabash community through fundraising efforts, the local Tri Kappa chapter was able to award each Grant-in-Aid Scholarship recipient \$2,000 toward their tuition for the 2021-2022 school year. This year's recipients are



Emma Brainard, of Northfield High School, is the 2021 Tri Kappa Grant-in-Aid Scholarship winner.

Emma Brainard, of Northfield High School, will be attending the University of Notre Dame to major in marketing and international business with aspirations of receiving her master's in business. She is the daughter of Kevin and Stephenie Brainard.

Kyndal Fields, of Wabash High School, will be attending Ball State University to major



Maggie Ball, of Southwood High School, is the 2021 Tri Kappa Grant-in-Aid Scholarship winner.

in nursing. She is the daughter of Megan and Bobby Fields.

Maggie Ball, of Southwood High School, will be attending Indiana Wesleyan University to pursue an Occupational Therapy degree with ambitions of completing the doctoral program, as well. She is the daughter of Chad and Melissa Ball.

The second scholarship is in honor of Lulu Baer, a



Kyndal Fields, of Wabash High School, is the 2021 Tri Kappa Grant-in-Aid Scholarship winner.

Wabash native and founding member of Tri Kappa. Lulu Baer attended the May Wright Sewall's Classical School in Indianapolis and it was on February 22, 1901, that she and her classmates founded Tri Kappa. Seven years later, Lulu returned home to begin the Wabash Chapter of Tri Kappa, known as Alpha Epsilon. This award is presented to



Lacey Crist is one of the 2021 Lulu Baer Award winners.

a senior boy and girl of outstanding character from Wabash High School who have availed themselves most fully of the opportunities for self-development. This year's recipients are Paul Cordes and Lacey Crist. Both Paul and Lacey will receive \$400 and, as tradition, their names will be engraved on the Tri Kappa Lulu Baer Award plaque displayed in Wabash High School.



Paul Cordes is one of the 2021 Lulu Baer Award winners.

"Kappa Kappa Kappa was founded February 22, 1901, on the foundation of charity, culture, and education. With nearly 7,000 members within the state of Indiana, the 145 Active chapters and 102 Associate chapters of Tri Kappa can give over \$1.5 million every year to important projects that help babies, children, teens and adults throughout Indiana," stated the release.

QUEEN

From page A1

Sweet (who was ill and unable to compete), McKenzie Roth, Ella Satterthwaite, Jenna Krom and Ashley Lyons.

The event, which was hosted by Brianne and Derek Finch, began with a dance number to the sounds of "Walking on Sunshine" by Katrina and the Waves.

Afterward, 2020 Wabash County 4-H Fair Queen Alyssa McKillip led the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge.

McKillip is attending Butler University, studying biology with a focus on pre-medicine.



Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

The formal wear portion of the event counted for part of the points towards the total.

graduated as valedictorian of Mater Dei High School and currently attends Purdue University majoring in data science with a minor in computer technology.

The judges, including Abby Hobbs, Jackie Leeuw and Michael Sprinkle were then introduced before the start of the formal wear portion.

Derek Finch said earlier in the day, each contestant sat for three-minute interviews with the judges beforehand. Finch said the points earned in this section accounted for the largest portion.

"We feel it is valuable practice for the ladies as they head into college or

future job interviews," said Derek Finch.

Each contestant was then asked to blindly pick a random word written on a piece of paper and tell the audience what it meant to them.

Elise Gottschalk drew the word "respect."

"To me, the word 'respect' means treating everybody with kindness no matter where they came from," she said.

Scholarships were then announced by 4-H youth development extension educator Jessi Huston, extension educator Geoff Schortgen, extension educator Mindy Mays and Farm Bureau president Mark York.

Scholarship winners included Grace Bryant, Elise Gottschalk, Jenna Krom and McKenzie Roth, who was also the winner of a \$500 scholarship from the Extension Homemakers. The Daniel Cecil Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Alexander Hauptert. Mark York announced 10-Year Award winners were Emma Hoover and Gracen Kelley, who were each given a plaque and a \$50 gift certificate.

Afterward, Alyssa McKillip gave her farewell address on the same stage where she was crowned just a year ago. "It is sad, really, that only one can bear the crown, but

whoever walks away with the diamonds tonight is sure in for the journey of a lifetime," she said, crying at times while she delivered her speech.

Alyssa McKillip then took one last walk across the stage before this year's winners were announced.

"The good news is we will crown a queen tonight. The bad news is the judges are not quite finished. So I have decided to go on a 10-minute-long political rant. I'm just kidding. It's only going to be seven minutes," said Derek Finch, to laughter.

The Finches stalled for a bit before bringing up the lights for a few minutes to

give the judges time to finish.

"Of course the minute we walked off the results were in," said Brianne Finch as the audience made their way back to their seats and the house lights went down again.

The contestants again re-entered the stage before the Maxine Howard Memorial Award. The award was delivered by Maxine Howard's great-granddaughter Alex Cartwright to Braylen Fleck, before the rest of the court was announced.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaineder.com.

FAIR

From page A1

Krom, Alayna Miller, Max Miller, Gavin Mize, Jayden Peas, Dyson Rosen, McKenzie Roth, Torina Runkel, Abby Schuler, Elaine Shock, Guy Stephan, Kearston Stout, Keaton Stout, Braden Sweet, Gabrielle Wagoner, Carter Wilcox and Alix Winner.

Senior 4-H Members included Cassandra French, Elise Gottschalk, Chloe Miller, Erica Ortiz, Trevor Schuler, Emily Stambaugh, Brady Swain, Jarrett Wilson and Shelia Winger.

"Thank you 4-H Council members, 4-H Adult Leaders, 4-H members, Livestock Committees, Fair Board members and all other volunteers for making Wabash

County 4-H great," said Huston.

The fair itself began Friday, July 16 and continues through Saturday, July 24.

Saturday, July 17 saw the Tractor Driving Contest at the Fairgrounds, the Obedience Agility Dog Show and the second day of the Horse and Pony Show. On Monday, July 19, the Beef and Mini Beef Show was held at the Show Arena, the Rabbit Ambassador event was held at the Rabbit Barn, the Dairy Show was held at the Show Arena, the Rabbit Show was held at the Rabbit Barn, and the Mini 4-H King and Queen Contest was held in the Show Arena. On Tuesday, July 20, the Goat Show was held in the Show Arena including Showmanship, Mini 4-H Goat Show Dairy Goat; the Pygmy Goat

Show was held in the Show Arena; the Meat Goat Show was held in the Show Arena; the Book to Barn event was held in the Horse Pavilion; and the Sheep and Mini Sheep Show was held in the Show Arena, with Mini 4-H Sheep Show immediately after.

Events scheduled for the remainder of the fair include:

Wednesday, July 21

- 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Junior Leaders Full Service Food Trailer is open serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks.
- 8 a.m. – Swine Show and Mini 4-H Swine Show in the Show Arena.

Thursday, July 22

- 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. – Junior Leaders Full Service Food Trailer is open serving

breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks.

- 5 to 7 a.m. – Livestock release.
- 9 a.m. – Round Robin Showmanship in the Horse and Show Arena.
- 9 a.m. – Poultry Show in the Poultry Barn.
- 5 p.m. – Round Robin Showmanship in the Horse and Show Arena.
- 3 to 5:30 p.m. – Non-livestock release.
- 8 to 11 p.m. – Livestock release.

Friday, July 23

- 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. – Fi-

nal non-livestock project release.

- 9 a.m. – Champion photos.
- 10:30 a.m. – Achievement awards.
- 11 a.m. – 2022 senior awards and photo.
- Noon – Lunch provided for the cleanup crew.
- 1 to 4 p.m. – Clean up fairgrounds.
- 4 p.m. – Champion check-in.
- 4:30 p.m. – Parade of champions in the Show Arena. All livestock breed, rate of grain, county born

and bred champions, grand champions and showmanship winners will be included, in addition to all non-livestock State Fair winners and county champions. Participants will receive a T-shirt.

- 5 p.m. 4-H members' fun night begins.
- (This year's 4-H auction will be held online.)

For more information, visit www.extension.purdue.edu/wabash.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaineder.com.

VETERANS

From page A1

Daugherty. "The upward progressive trend for Wabash County has continued to gain momentum."

Wabash County again realized a marked increase in veteran benefits of \$22.9 million, up substantially from last year's \$21 million.

"It is important to point out that aging veterans from both World War II and the Korean War are passing on at a steady rate," said Daugherty.

Daugherty said this resulted in a decrease in Wabash's overall veteran population of approximately 1.7 percent.

The overall county veteran population is down from 2,165 to 2,127 in the past year.

"Wabash County has still managed to increase its fo-

cus on veteran assistance programs despite the dwindling veteran population," said Daugherty. "This is largely due to the outreach programs and practices of the Veterans Service Office."

Daugherty said the County Veteran Service Office, which includes also Wabash County deputy county veteran officer Belinda Ireland, has worked to benefit county veterans in the past fiscal year despite the office being only staffed part-time and budgeted for 1,000 hours yearly.

Daugherty said their office helps veterans receive are healthcare, disability compensation, burial allowances, educational assistance, vocational rehabilitation assistance, and nursing home assistance. The office tries to maintain standard hours on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the year.

In May, Daugherty announced that for the second year in a row, the Wabash County Memorial Day services would not be held due in person due to COVID-19.

Daugherty said the annual event had been planned for the North Lawn of the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, May 31.

However, due to Gov. Eric Holcomb's continuation of the state of emergency declaration, Daugherty said they had decided to cancel the event.

Daugherty said the ceremony would usually include numerous speakers, service organizations, police, fire, Emergency Management Agency (EMA) workers and other stakeholders and invitees.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaineder.com.

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JAIL

From page A1

and Tipton County jails, and occasionally Whitley or Noble county jails, depending on needs.

Baker said they currently have 31 people enrolled in treatment court, 98 at community corrections, 194 at pretrial release and 881 on probation.

Baker said they currently don't have the space to conduct any program inside the jail itself.

Baker said they drive thousands of miles per month just transferring inmates from one jail to another.

The new facility will be located at 1335 Manchester Ave.

Pyramid Consulting president Terry Burnworth, who has been hired as the owner's representative, said they were looking at a 90,000 square foot facility, which would house around 300 inmates.

Burnworth said a 20-acre parcel would be carved out for the new facility and also for future expansion.

Wabash County Council Chairman and District 4 councilmember Kyle Bowman said the projected cost for 2021 would be \$1.2 million to house inmates out of the county.

Bowman said the state had recently changed the reimbursement method so that some low-level felons remain in the county.

Bowman said that while the state reimburses the county for the cost of housing these inmates locally, the state has been running behind on its reimbursements.

Bowman said the state recently changed the formula to a one-time distribution based on the preceding year's number of housed inmates.

Bowman said the state created a correctional facility fund that is income tax-driven.

Bowman said these credits, sometimes called Property Tax Reform Commit-

tee (PTRC) credits, have been in existence for quite a few years and remove some of the income tax burdens.

At the time, Bowman said they were looking at lowering these credits from .5 to .4.

Bowman said these credits are assessed at different values and amounts and are based on property types, with most of them going to homestead homeowners.

At Monday's Wabash County Board of Commissioners meeting, Krohn and Associates partner Jim Treat said a \$33 million bond sizing was the goal, with an annual payment of \$2.3 million to \$2.4 million expected.

"You've got the sufficient revenues to cover those payments," said Treat.

Treat said they were widening the requested amount of the bonds to \$40 million "to account for any kind of changes before the final costs are in."

"By adopting it at this level it gives you the flexibility to adopt a higher bond amount," said Treat. "If your interest rates are around 3 percent, your payment is still going to be at that \$3 million level. I would expect it to be around \$600,000 less per year, so that's why we try to plan for all those things."

Baker said they had to "build for the future."

"If we build a jail with the same number of inmates we have now, it's going to be a major problem for the taxpayers of Wabash County when you add on in a few years or we pay inmates to be housed out of the county," said Baker. "At 80 percent capacity, the jail is technically full."

Later that same evening, at the Wabash County Council Steve Downs said the county would be transferring the real estate to the newly-established building corporation, which they will then lease back to the county.

Downs said similar arrangements are "used routinely now" in the state for jails, schools and other large projects.

At both meetings, the resolutions and ordinances were passed unanimously, with the rules suspended so that they could be passed on second reading at the same meeting.

According to the ordinance, Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd has recommended the creation of a local fund that will exclusively receive proceeds from the issuance of the Local Income Tax Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN), Series 2021.

The ordinance establishes a separate and distinct fund called the Jail Project BAN Fund.

The Wabash County Treasurer will serve as the custodian and the Wabash County Auditor will serve as the auditing agent for the fund and will oversee the administration of the fund.

According to the resolution, a petition was signed by at least 50 taxpayers of Wabash County and was submitted to the commissioners. The petitioners are asking for the acquisition, construction and equipping by a nonprofit building corporation of a new sheriff's office and jail facility.

The facility will be approximately 90,000 square feet and will be designed to hold 300 men and women in separate areas.

The county has imposed a local income tax (LIT) which includes amount needed for the correctional facilities.

The cost of the project is not projected to exceed \$40 million without the further authorization of the board.

The first meeting of the Wabash County Jail Building Corporation will take place at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at 99 W. Canal St. Bylaws, election of officers, approval of lease agreements and other matters related to the project will be discussed.

To participate in the meeting, visit <https://tinyurl.com/hejetbrd>.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



Provided photo

Mirvia Sol Eckert is a Puerto Rican painter based in Indianapolis.

EXHIBIT

From page A1

In addition, the exhibit features the artistic creations of Wabash County students who worked alongside visiting artist Ana Velazquez for We the Many, a project of Arts Midwest with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and in partnership with the Indiana Arts Commission, Iowa Arts Council, and South Dakota Arts Council.

"Our goal is to create a space for students to voice their feelings and experiences," said Ana Velazquez, Teaching Artist for We the Many.

The artwork for the show was curated by Arte Mexicano en Indiana, a nonprofit arts organization based in Indianapolis that encourages and promotes art, music and culture.

"We are excited to showcase this fantastic artwork in Wabash. Art speaks a universal language that connects us all," said Eduardo Luna of Arte Mexicano en Indiana.

Featured artists include:

■ Karen Garrido; painter; Colombian; Indianapolis.

■ Mirvia Sol Eckert; painter; Puerto Rican; Indianapolis.

■ Aaron Johnson-Ortiz, muralist; Mexican American/Chicanx; Minneapolis.

■ Sergio Sánchez Santamaría; printmaker; Mexico

■ Carlos Sosa; graphic designer; Nuyorican; Indianapolis

■ John Vazquez; illustrator; Mexican American; Indianapolis

The "Artes Latinas in Wabash" exhibit will be included as a stop during Wabash First Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 6, in downtown Wabash, the theme of which is "Around the World."

Additionally, the public is invited to attend a reception celebrating the exhibit and its talented artists at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11, in the Honeywell Center Clark Gallery.

Sponsorship is provided by Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Centre.

For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org.

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